CLAIMS: Please amend the claims according to the status designations in the following list, which contain all claims that were ever in the application, with the text of all active claims.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A page holder comprising:
   (a) a tensioning mechanism set at a predetermined strength, being sufficiently strong to retain pages in an open position, yet sufficiently light to enable page turning,
   (b) a plurality of gripping members, and
   (c) a retaining line of predetermined length,
   (d) said tensioning mechanism being attached to one of said gripping members, and
   (e) said line being attached to said tensioning mechanism so that said tensioning mechanism feeds in additional line to enable page turning and subsequently retracts said additional line as the page turn is completed, ~~and~~
   (f) the other end of said line being attached to the second gripping member, and
   (g) the tensioning mechanism including a tension adjustment control that allows a user to vary tension which the tensioning mechanism applies to the retaining line.

   whereby said pages are retained in an open position, and
   whereby a user can turn said page without delay or encumbrance, and
   whereby the remaining pages are secure throughout the page turn.

2. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 1, wherein said gripping members are clamps.

3. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 1, wherein said tensioning mechanism is a self-retracting reel.

4. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 3, wherein said reel is spring-biased.

5. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 3, wherein said reel is biased by an elastic band.

6. (CANCELED)

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The page holder of ~~Claim 6~~ Claim 1, wherein the force of tension ranges from approximately 0.05 N to 0.6 N.

8. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 1, wherein said line is a monofilament.

9. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 8, wherein said monofilament is made from polyvinyledine fluoride.

10. (ORIGINAL) The page holder of Claim 1, wherein said page holder is applied directly to a book.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of retaining pages while enabling unencumbered manual page turning, comprising:

(a) providing a page holder comprising a tensioning mechanism set at a predetermined strength, being sufficiently strong to retain pages in an open position, yet sufficiently light to enable page turning, said tensioning mechanism being attached to a first gripping member, and said tensioning mechanism dispensing a retaining line such that said tensioning mechanism feeds in additional line to enable page turning and subsequently retracts said additional line as the page turn is completed, the other end of said line being attached to a second gripping member,

(b) providing a support for reading matter, and placing reading matter on said support,

(c) attaching said gripping members to opposing edges of said support, and extending said line diagonally across said reading matter,

whereby said pages are retained in an open position, and

whereby a user can turn said page without delay or encumbrance, and

whereby the remaining pages are secure throughout the page turn.

12. (CANCELED)

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 11, wherein said tensioning mechanism is a self-retracting reel.

14. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 13, wherein said reel is spring-biased.

15. (CANCELED)

16. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 13, further including a tension adjustment control on said reel.

17. (CANCELED)

18. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 11, wherein said line is a monofilament.

19. (ORIGINAL) The method of Claim 18, wherein said monofilament is made from polyvinyledine fluoride.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of Claim 11, wherein said support is a clipboard.

21. (NEW) A method of retaining pages while enabling unencumbered manual page turning, comprising:

(a) providing a page holder comprising a tensioning mechanism having a tension adjustment control, and set at a predetermined strength, being sufficiently strong to retain pages in an open position, yet sufficiently light to enable page turning, said tensioning

mechanism being attached to a first gripping member, and said tensioning mechanism dispensing a retaining line such that said tensioning mechanism feeds in additional line to enable page turning and subsequently retracts said additional line as the page turn is completed, the other end of said line being attached to a second gripping member, the tension adjustment control allowing a user to vary tension which the tensioning mechanism applies to the retaining line,

(b) providing a support for reading matter, and placing reading matter on said support,

(c) attaching said gripping members to opposing edges of said support, and extending said line across said reading matter,

whereby said pages are retained in an open position, and

whereby a user can turn said page without delay or encumbrance, and

whereby the remaining pages are secure throughout the page turn.

22. (NEW) The method of Claim 21, wherein the force of tension ranges from approximately 0.05 N to 0.6 N.

23. (NEW) A method of retaining pages while enabling unencumbered manual page turning, comprising:

(a) providing a plurality of page holders, each comprising a tensioning mechanism set at a predetermined strength, being sufficiently strong to retain pages in an open position, yet sufficiently light to enable page turning, said tensioning mechanism being attached to a first gripping member, and said tensioning mechanism dispensing a retaining line such that said tensioning mechanism feeds in additional line to enable page turning and subsequently retracts said additional line as the page turn is completed, the other end of said line being attached to a second gripping member,

(b) providing a support for reading matter, and placing reading matter on said support,

(c) attaching said gripping members to opposing edges of said support, and extending said lines across said reading matter,

whereby said pages are retained in an open position, and
whereby a user can turn said page without delay or encumbrance, and
whereby the remaining pages are secure throughout the page turn.

24. (NEW) The method of Claim 23, further including a tension adjustment control that allows a user to vary tension which the tensioning mechanism applies to the retaining line.